

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7603**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1340

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 5, 2005

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Town Fire Protection.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Thomas

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                          **X DEDICATED**  
                          **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires a town to provide fire protection and fire prevention services or to contract with another municipality, township, county, volunteer fire department, or fire protection district to provide fire protection and fire prevention services for the town. It allows the Attorney General to seek a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 a day for each day the town fails to provide fire protection and fire prevention services. The bill also requires any penalties to be deposited in the Statewide Fire and Building Safety Education Fund.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2005.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** This bill allows the Attorney General to impose a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each day a town fails to provide fire protection and prevention services. Any revenue generated from this penalty is to be deposited in the Statewide Fire and Building Safety Education Fund. Money in the fund is used at the local and state level to provide for fire education. The Fire and Building Services Department administers the fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Under current law, a unit may provide fire protection and prevention services as well as corresponding facilities and equipment. This bill requires towns to either provide such services on its own or by contracting with another provider. Because there is no additional taxing authority provided in the bill, any additional expenses related to providing fire protection for those towns not currently doing so would be paid from existing funds. The fiscal impact of this bill will vary as the cost of providing fire

protection and prevention services is largely based on the size of the town's area to be covered.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Attorney General; Fire and Building Services Department.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Towns.

**Information Sources:** Local Government Database.

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